

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 22 and 23 have been amended, and claims 18-21 have been canceled. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, and 5-17, 22 and 23 are now pending in the present application.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowability of claims 1, 2 and 5-17. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 22 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 22 and 23 have been amended to incorporate the features of claims 18-21. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 22 and 23 are allowable.

Since claims 22 and 23 are amended merely to place the claims in a better condition for allowance and since the amendments do not introduce any new issues for consideration, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to enter these amendments.

Claims 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morning et al. (US 6159368, hereinafter “Morning”). However, claims 18-21 have been canceled. Accordingly, the rejection is moot.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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